

## **SAFE SCHOOLS: School Resource Officers**

School Resource Officers (SROs) are certified law enforcement officers who protect our public schools. SROs are permanently assigned to one or more schools, but they are much more than just cops on campus. They are also specially trained to serve as counselors, friends and mentors to students.

While SROs work with students to prevent violence, they must also be ready to respond to a critical incident at their school. SROs play a key role in implementing [the Critical Incident Response Kit](#) at their schools, and all SROs serving in North Carolina's public schools have received [Rapid Deployment Training](#). The [North Carolina Justice Academy](#) offers certification and training for SROs.

To further prepare SROs for a potentially violent school incident, Attorney General Roy Cooper distributed wireless phones to 379 school resource officers (SROs) serving in schools in 64 counties across the state. These wireless phones enable SROs to call for help whenever and wherever a crisis occurs. The phones and airtime were made available as a result of a settlement between the Attorney General's office and Alltel.

For more information about SROs, please see:

The Center for the Prevention of School Violence  
<http://www.ncsu.edu/cpsv/sro.htm>

The North Carolina Association of School Resource Officers  
<http://www.ncasro.org/>

The National Association of School Resource Officers  
<http://www.nasro.org/>